



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

OFFICE OF MINE RECLAMATION

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California's Abandoned Mine Lands Program Fact Sheet Abandoned Mine Inventory and Remediation

Field Inventories

● The Department of Conservation's **Abandoned Mine Lands Unit (AMLU)** began cataloging California's abandoned mines in 1997 using \$250,000 from the Department's Surface Mining and Reclamation Account.

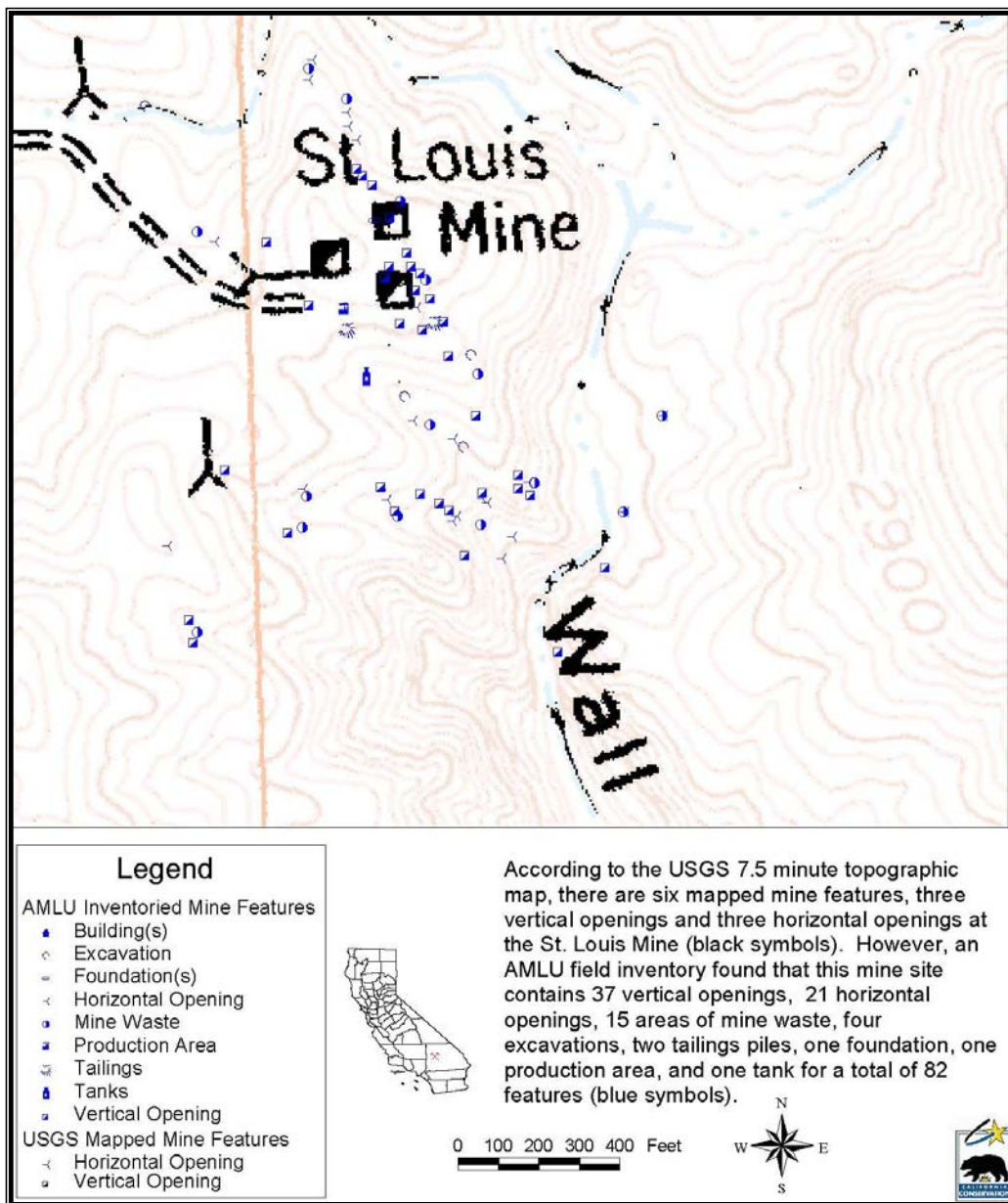
● Since 1997, the AMLU has inventoried more than:

- 14,500 mine features; and
- 2,400 abandoned mine sites.

● To support its inventory work, the AMLU uses its **Topographically Occurring Mine Symbols (TOMS)** database, comprised of mine symbols scanned and digitized from U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7½ minute topographical maps.

● The AMLU finds an average of 3.5 mine features per mapped symbol during field inventories. The number of features per symbol varies from site to site, as shown in the St. Louis Mine example to the right.

● For more information, including the TOMS database and a map of potential abandoned mine locations in California, visit the AMLU website at www.consrv.ca.gov/OMR/abandoned_mine_land.



Remediations

● Following the 2002-03 Budget Act, the AMLU split its activities and funding between abandoned mine inventory and remediation. Since January 2006, the AMLU's primary funding to remediate abandoned mine hazards, approximately \$400,000 per year, has come from a fee collected on gold and silver (\$5 per ounce of gold and 10¢ per ounce of silver) mined in California.¹

● Working with its partners, which typically contribute funds or in-kind services, the AMLU has leveraged State dollars by nearly 100 percent, remediating more hazards than it could with its own resources only. The AMLU's partners include those listed below.²

State & Local Agencies

- California Conservation Corps
- California Department of Fish and Game
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- California Department of Transportation
- California State Lands Commission
- Paradise Irrigation District

Private Partners

- Teichert

Federal Agencies

- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- National Park Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Forest Service

Nonprofit Partners

- Bat Conservation International
- Western States Trail Foundation

● The AMLU began funding remediations in 2002. It has now remediated more than **300** hazardous mine features, using the techniques listed below.

- Wire fences.....
- Backfills.....
- Closed with polyurethane foam (PUF).....
- Fitted with bat-compatible gates, cupolas, or culverts.....
- Other (fitted with steel cap, blasted shut, partial fencing, unstable structures demolished, hazardous debris removed, etc.).....

Total features remediated (through January 5, 2007):

# Features Remediated	
2006-07 (Gold & Silver Fee)	2002-2007 (Cumulative)
28	61
59	126
11	31
46	81
7	15
151	314



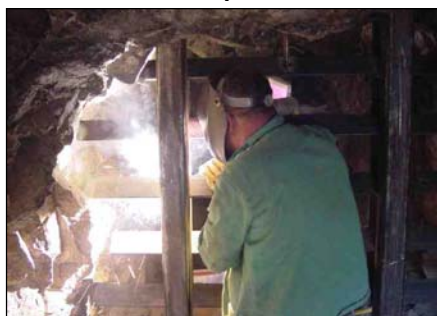
Fence, Imperial Co.



Backfill in progress, Mariposa Co.



PUF closure in progress, El Dorado Co.



Bat gate in progress, Riverside Co.



Bat cupola, San Bernardino Co.



Bat cupola, Inyo Co.

¹ See Senate Bill 649, Kuehl *et al.* (Public Resources Code § 2207(d)(4)(B)).

² For recent projects and partners, see www.consrv.ca.gov/OMR/abandoned_mine_land/Contracts/index1.htm.